

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:332

ANSWERED ON:14.08.2001

OPENING OF CAMPUSES BY FOREIGN UNIVERSITIES .

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Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether after the implementation of World Trade Organisation (WTO) agreement in services, the foreign universities are likely to open their campuses in India in the near future;
- (b) if so, the details in this regard;
- (c) whether the Government have asked for the views from the Vice Chancellors in the matter, before opening the Education Sector for the foreign institutions;
- (d) if so, the details in this regard and views of the Vice Chancellors in the matter;
- (e) whether the Government have made any study regarding the dangers fraught with the opening of the education sector to global competition and also with free trade in education;
- (f) if so, the details thereof; and (g) the extent to which India is prepared for that competition?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI)

(a) to (g) : The General Agreement on Trade in Services (GATS) under the auspices of WTO covers a large spectrum of services. These services have been divided into twelve sectors. Educational services form one of these sectors. The negotiations on this sector have, however, not yet taken place. The Government is fully committed to taking all necessary measures, in consultation with educational experts including University Vice Chancellors, to ensure that the Indian Education is not adversely affected by GATS.